City of Orange

Preserving Community Health

Did you know…by using environmentally-friendly products and changing your daily habits, you could reduce pollution in our land, water and air, prevent unnecessary heat spells, safeguard valuable fresh water resources, and preserve our natural wilderness for future generations. Thank you for taking the time to consider how you can make a difference and *turn Orange GREEN*.

- The City of Orange grew 3.6% between 2000 and 2007 and was ranked the 136th fastest growing incorporated area in the nation.[1]
- For every can of trash a person discards, 70 cans of trash were created by the consumption of resources, production processes, and distribution of products.[2]
- Only 28% of the City of Orange's total solid waste was recycled in 2007 with the rest deposited in regional landfills.[3]
- 2 million plastic bottles are discarded in the U.S. every five minutes.[4]
- For your health and safety, the City's drinking water quality is routinely tested 32 times per week in Orange's state-accredited lab.[5]
- The *Depot Walk* residential housing project in historic Old Towne Orange was the first multi-family housing project in California to be Silver Certified under the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design System by the U.S. Green Building Council. Great job Olson Company!

Source: [1] U.S. Census (2007). [2] Story of Stuff..com. [3] Waste Management Inc. (2007). [4] Scientific American Earth 3.0: Solutions for Sustainable Progress 18(4), 2008. [5] Public Works Water Division (2008).

Community Tips

Breathe easier…go plant a tree! – Trees filter the air we breathe removing CO_2 (a greenhouse gas) and pollutants, and releasing oxygen. Planting shade trees around the house (especially along the southern sun-facing wall) can also improve curb appeal and value while buffering it from the heat, which translates into big savings on the electric bill by reducing the need for air conditioning! If space is limited, consider mechanical shade devices, awnings or structures, such as an arbor or trellis.

Wake up with a hot cup of coffee! – If you regularly drink coffee, water or soda, invest in a quality reusable mug, thermos or bottle. Many shops will give you a discount for using your container, so it will pay for itself in time. If you like cold drinks, fill up a reusable bottle with a drink from home.

Take a walk – Whenever possible, walk, run, bike or skate through the town you love. Pedestrian activities improve health, reduce air pollution, and give you an opportunity to meet your neighbors. You can find local parks at: www.cityoforange.org/depts/commserv/parks_and_facilities and trails at: www.cityoforange.org/depts/commserv/trails.

Do you have a green thumb? – Support local farmers and gardeners, and buy organic. Stroll down to the Old Towne farmer's market or the Farmer's Market at the Village at Orange. If you have a green thumb, save a little money, and grow your own garden. If yard space is tight, rent a plot at Orange's Community Gardens located at Main Street and Maple Avenue. Nothing tastes better than a fresh tomato off the vine! For more information, visit: www.cityoforange.org/depts/commserv/community_gardens.asp.

Buy local – Support local businesses to find great deals, save time, build the community, and reduce your fuel consumption. From the Plaza to The Block to the hills of East Orange, Orange has great restaurants and shops! You may even see some friends.

Read the signs – Play in designated areas so as to avoid harming or disturbing local wildlife. If you are out for a nature walk, please don't collect protected plants, which are struggling to survive. Enjoy from a distance, so that others might do the same.

Can't stand it? – Give it away to your local Salvation Army or Goodwill. Or, sell it through a consignment shop or yard sale or online. Repurposing old stuff can put a few dollars in your pocket and a smile on someone's face.

Buy recycled or refurbished products – Use recycled products, and try to extend the life of those that you own. When purchasing, ask the sales clerk, read packaging, or go on-line to identify waste-responsible products and manufacturers. Visit your local antiques dealers and thrift shops for classic styles for less. Auto wrecking yards might also save you a bundle on a simple fix.

More packaging does not mean more product! – Buy products with less packaging. Many brands purposefully include bulky packaging to increase shelf space. Manufacturers are more likely to switch their habits if consumers show a preference for less packaging. For example, try buying bulk groceries. Split bulk buys with your friends or family. Decline the bag at the register for small items. *Opportunities are everywhere!*

No Litter…no dumping! – Trash is ugly, costs money and resources to collect, and could cause fires, pollute your water or harm wildlife. Please don't litter!

Save our oceans and waterways – Please don't dump oil, paint, solvents, medications or chemicals down the drain or gutter. Polluted runoff drains directly to our creeks and oceans, degrades our water resources and kills natural habitat. and wildlife.

Do you need lumber? – If you are planning a project requiring wood, buy FSC certified wood. The symbol indicates that the wood was grown and harvested with the highest social and environmental standards. Visit the Forrest Stewardship Council (FSC) at www.fsc.org for more information.

For your safety – Be sure to conduct monthly tests on your smoke detectors and carbon monoxide detectors. It's also good to check your fire extinguishers each month. If you have ground fault circuit interrupter (GFCI) outlets in your home, test and reset at least every few months.

Resources

- Find swim classes, summer camps and parks and community facilities near you. Call today! (714) 744-7274 or go on-line www.cityoforange.org/depts
- Want a free street tree? The City will purchase and install a street tree in front of your property for FREE (pending available space). Contact Harvey Sosa, Tree Services Coordinator at (714) 744-6470.
- Please don't dispose of Household Hazardous Waste (HHW) in your curbside waste bin or recycled containers. It is illegal. HHW includes: paint, solvents, lawn chemicals, used motor oil and filters, tires, batteries (car and household), non-controlled pharmaceuticals, electronics (all forms: cell phones, calculators, electronic toys, televisions, computers, monitors, VCRs, DVD, stereos, etc.), florescent lamps (including CFL bulbs due to trace elements of Mercury), and sharps (needles, syringes and lancets). HHW must be disposed through FREE curb-side service. Request a disposal kit and schedule a pick-up appointment by calling (714) 834-6752. Sharps must be disposed in disposal-by-mail kits available from Walgreens, and some Rite Aid stores.
- Locate a recycling or non-hazardous waste disposal center: Contact Greg Warren, Recycling Coordinator (714) 744-7220
- Check-out these repurposing centers: Goodwill, 849 S. Tustin Street, Orange, CA 92866 | (714) 538-0851 (800) 741-0186
  Salvation Army, 180 S. Tustin St., Orange, CA 92866 | (714) 532-2235 (800) 728-7825
- Find green certified products and advice:

  U.S. EPA – Environmentally Preferable Purchasing www.epa.gov/opptintr/epp/index.htm

  Green Seal www.greenseal.org

  Consumer Reports www.consumerreports.org/cro/index.htm

  Green Building Resource Center, 2218 Main Street, Santa Monica, CA 90405 (310) 452-7677 www.globalgreen.org/gbrc
- Enjoy your natural resources: Start by visiting the Natural History of Orange County: California and nearby places

  http://nathistoc.bio.uci.edu/index.htm

300 E. Chapman Avenue
Orange, CA 92866

Jennifer Le
Senior Planner &
Environmental Coordinator
Advance Planning Section
(714) 744-7220

The Plaza in Old Towne Orange (2009).